



# News Release

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## State disciplines health care providers

**OLYMPIA** -- The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 80 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "[Look up a health care provider license](#)" in the "How Do I?" section of the [Department of Health website](#) (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are encouraged to call and report their complaint.

## Benton County

In June 2015 the secretary of health denied a registered nursing assistant credential to **Chad M. Hacker** (NA60501704). On his application, Hacker said he had no criminal convictions. In 2007 he was convicted of minor operating vehicle after alcohol consumption. In 2011 he was convicted of reckless driving. In 2012 he received deferred prosecution on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

In July 2015 the Unlicensed Practice Program entered an agreement with **Shanna Deranleau** under which she agrees to cease and desist from unlicensed practice as a medical assistant. Deranleau performed the duties of a medical assistant without a license.

## Clark County

In August 2015 the secretary of health ended probation for chemical dependency professional trainee **Katherine Rosemary McCallister-Salisbury** (CO60233550).

## Island County

In August 2015 the Unlicensed Practice Program amended a notification to **Arely Jimenez** of its

intent to issue a cease-and-desist order to include information about additional patients. Jimenez allegedly practiced naturopathic medicine without a license.

### **King County**

Following a hearing in late May, the Medical Commission dismissed charges against physician **David S. Buscher** (MD00017089) in June 2015.

In August 2015 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Bao Hua Chen** of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Charges say Chen doesn't have a massage license, but touched a client inappropriately while providing massage treatment.

In August 2015 the Chiropractic Commission amended a statement of charges against chiropractor **David M. Birdsall** (CH00034882) to add allegations of inadequate record-keeping and X-rays were not of diagnostic quality.

In August 2015 the secretary of health ordered **Xiaomin Qi** to cease and desist from unlicensed practice of massage, and pay a \$1,000 fine. Qi, who doesn't have a massage practitioner license, provided and offered to provide massage treatment.

### **Mason County**

In August 2015 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program charged chemical dependency professional **Darrell R. Chambers** (CP60001706) with unprofessional conduct. Charges say Chambers became upset when the agency where he and his wife both worked fired her. He allegedly showed a handgun to an agency staff member and said he should have shot the agency administrator when he had the chance. Chambers also allegedly threatened to burn down the agency.

### **Pierce County**

In July 2015 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Larry J. Lee** (NA00092087) with unprofessional conduct. In June 2015 Lee was charged with second-degree murder in connection with a client's death. Charges say the client, who had autism and a "mild case of retardation," had open, infected wounds, some the "size of pancakes," that caused his death.

In July 2015 the Unlicensed Practice Program entered an agreement with **Xiao Q. Tang** under which Tang agrees to cease and desist from the practice of massage. Tang, who must pay a \$1,000 fine, doesn't have a massage license, but operated a massage business and offered to provide massage.

In August 2015 the secretary of health ended probation for agency affiliated counselor and mental health counselor associate **Lisa Lynn Waugh** (MC60214928, CG60153669).

In August 2015 the secretary of health ended probation for certified health care assistant and medical assistant-hemodialysis technician **Michelle Velasquez Malang** (HC60273821, HT60373460).

In August 2015 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Mary S. Patterson** (RN00066909) with unprofessional conduct. Patterson allegedly didn't comply with a substance abuse monitoring contract.

In July 2015 the Chiropractic Commission charged chiropractor **John W. Burki** (CH00033768) with being unable to practice with reasonable skill and safety. Charges say patients noticed the odor of alcohol on Burki's breath, and that he had glassy and bloodshot eyes, as well as slurred speech while he was at his clinic. Burki allegedly admitted self-medicating with alcohol, in addition to using medication. He allegedly admitted struggling with excessive alcohol consumption. Charges also say a physician who evaluated Burki concluded he can't practice with reasonable skill and safety because of his substance use.

### **Snohomish County**

In August 2015 the Pharmacy Commission charged pharmacy technician **Charity Hanke** (VA00044948) with unprofessional conduct. Hanke allegedly admitted diverting narcotic medication tablets from the pharmacy where she worked. She also allegedly admitted drinking heavily.

In July 2015 the secretary of health ordered **Mary Elizabeth Hereth** to cease and desist from unlicensed practice as a medical assistant, and pay a \$1,000 fine. Hereth performed the duties of a medical assistant without a license.

### **Spokane County**

In July 2015 the Nursing Commission ended probation for licensed practical nurse and registered nurse **Jessica Grace Hanna** (LP60185480, RN60232768).

In August 2015 the secretary of health conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Amelia Tegan Lee Weeks** (CO60560042). Weeks must participate in a substance abuse monitoring program. In 2012 she was convicted of two counts of third-degree possession of stolen property. In 2014 charges of third-degree theft and third-degree assault were dismissed after Weeks completed a drug court program.

In August 2015 the Medical Commission placed physician **Lewis J. Meline** (MD00041815) on probation and fined him \$2,500. Meline must complete continuing education in ethics, boundaries and record-keeping. He must undergo an evaluation of his ability to understand appropriate boundaries and sexual behavior, and maintain appropriate boundaries with patients. Meline had ongoing sexual relationships with two patients who advertised themselves as escorts. He provided about \$50,000 to \$60,000 in financial support to one and about \$8,000 to

\$10,000 in financial support to the other, paying for items such as child support, phone bills, health care, escort service advertisements, and housing expenses. He took one patient with him to a medical conference in Las Vegas, where they shared a hotel room and he paid for all expenses. Meline issued prescriptions (including controlled substances) to both patients without treating them in a clinical setting, performing diagnostic tests, or keeping medical records. Meline prescribed testosterone for himself without keeping medical records and he wrote non-emergency prescriptions for family members without keeping medical records.

In August 2015 the secretary of health ended conditions on the credential of chemical dependency professional trainee and chemical dependency professional **Larry G. Howard** (CO60194291, CP60506174).

### **Walla Walla County**

In July 2015 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant and certified nursing assistant **Molly Jo Ohlinger** (NA60202089, NC60320353) with unprofessional conduct. Ohlinger allegedly admitted using Adderall, for which she had no prescription, and methamphetamine.

### **Out of State**

**California:** In August 2015 the Unlicensed Practice Program entered an agreement with **Yuxuan Liu** under which Liu agrees to cease and desist from the practice of massage. Liu must pay a \$1,000 fine. Liu doesn't have a massage license, but provided massage treatment.

**Massachusetts:** In July 2015 the Dental Commission ended conditions on the credential of dentist **James McAnally** (DE00007153).

**Michigan:** In August 2015 the secretary of health ordered **Nicole Ledbetter** to cease and desist from unlicensed practice of massage, and pay a \$1,000 fine. Ledbetter doesn't have a massage practitioner license, but owns a business that advertised massage.

**Note to Editors:** Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

The [Department of Health website](http://doh.wa.gov) (doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*.

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